VZCZCXYZ0023

DE RUEHLP #0594 1071345 ZNY CCCCC ZZH P 171345Z APR 09 FM AMEMBASSY LA PAZ TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 0594 INFO RUEHAC/AMEMBASSY ASUNCION 8953 RUEHBO/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA 6333 RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA 0307 RUEHBU/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES 7516 RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS 4563 RUEHCP/AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN 0466 RUEHPE/AMEMBASSY LIMA 4898 RUEHMN/AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO 6247 RUEHSP/AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN 0554 RUEHQT/AMEMBASSY QUITO 7181 RUEHSG/AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO 1945 RUEHUB/USINT HAVANA 1759 RHEHNSC/NSC WASHINGTON DC RHMFISS/HQ USSOUTHCOM MIAMI FL RUEAIIA/CIA WASHINGTON DC RUEKJCS/SECDEF WASHINGTON DC RHEFDIA/DIA WASHINGTON DC

CONFIDENTIAL LA PAZ 000594

SIPDIS

PASS TO AMY OSTERMEIER AND GAYATRI PATEL

E.O. 12958: DECL: 04/16/2019

TAGS: PGOV PREL KDEM PHUM PINR ENVR ASEC BL

SUBJECT: BOLIVIA: HUMAN RIGHTS COUNCIL DEMARCHE DELIVERED

Classified By: A/EcoPol Chief Brian Quigley for reasons 1.4 (b, d)

- 11. (U) As per reftel B, PolOff on April 9 demarched Bolivian MFA Americas Section Chief Maria Estella Mendoza regarding USG candidacy for the UN Human Rights Council. On April 15, Post delivered via diplomatic note the points listed in Reftel A.
- 12. (C) During the April 9 meeting, Mendoza lamented that she would not be able to engage in any conversation on the topic until she received a diplomatic note. When PolOff attempted to give her a non-paper with relevant information for her consideration and further discussion, she refused to take it, remarking that it was "not official." She stressed the formality of her office, and said the MFA would accept nothing less than a diplomatic note from any country's mission, not just the United States, when it came to any action request. Post has been informed by other MFA sources that USG demarches and diplomatic notes often have the opposite of their intended effect, with MFA and Presidential Palace hard-liners opposing any proposal almost sight unseen (reftel C).
- 13. (U) On April 15, post delivered a diplomatic note with the information included in reftel A. PolOff attempted to contact Mendoza for follow-up comment, but was unsuccessful. Post will forward any substantive response from the MFA. URS